AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing polyether polyols comprising catalytic addition reacting ethylene oxide and propylene oxide onto at least one H-functional initiator substance[[s]] in the presence of at least one multimetal cyanide compound as catalyst, wherein an end block of an alkylene oxide having at least three carbon atoms is added on at the end of the chain in an amount of from greater than 15 to 50% by weight based on the total weight of the polyol.

2. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the end block of an alkylene oxide having at least three carbon atoms is propylene oxide.

Claims 3-5 (Cancelled).

6. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least 80% of the total number of hydroxyl groups present in the polyether alcohol are secondary hydroxyl groups.

7. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least 90% of the total number of hydroxyl groups present in the polyether alcohol are secondary hydroxyl groups.

8. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least 95% of the total number of hydroxyl groups present in the polyether alcohol are secondary hydroxyl groups.

9. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein firstly a block of propylene oxide units, then a mixture of ethylene oxide and propylene oxide and then, at the end of the chain, a block of propylene oxide units are added onto the initiator substance.

Claim 10 (Cancelled).

11. (Previously Presented) A polyether alcohol which is prepared in accordance with the process as claimed in any of claims 1, 2, or 6 to 9.

PAGE 8/12 * RCVD AT 12/11/2003 5:29:47 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/0 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:734 324 6823 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-14

12. (Previously Presented). A process for producing polyurethanes by reacting polyisocyanates with compounds containing at least two hydrogen atoms which are reactive toward isocyanate groups, wherein the compounds containing at least two hydrogen atoms which are reactive toward isocyanate groups comprise at least one polyether alcohol as claimed in claim 1.

Claims 13 and 14 (Cancelled).

15. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a polyether polyol comprising catalytic addition reaction of a mixture of ethylene oxide and propylene oxide with at least one H-functional initiator substances in the presence of at least one multimetal cyanide compound as a catalyst, wherein the proportion of ethylene oxide in the mixture of ethylene oxide and propylene oxide is reduced during the course of the addition until only pure propylene oxide is being introduced at the end of the addition, ~~thereby~~ forming an end block of propylene oxide on the polyol in an amount of from greater than 15 to 50% by weight based on the total weight of the polyol.

Claims 16-18 (Cancelled).

19. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 15, wherein at least 80% of the total number of hydroxyl groups present in the polyether polyol are secondary hydroxyl groups.

PAGE 9/12 * RCVD AT 12/11/2003 5:29:47 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/0 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:734 324 6823 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-14

20. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 15, wherein at least 90% of the total number of hydroxyl groups present in the polyether polyol are secondary hydroxyl groups.

21. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 15, wherein at least 95% of the total number of hydroxyl groups present in the polyether polyol are secondary hydroxyl groups.

22. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim ~~13~~15, wherein initially a block of propylene oxide units is added onto the at least one H-functional initiator substances and then the mixture of ethylene oxide and propylene oxide is addition reacted wherein the proportion of ethylene oxide in the mixture of ethylene oxide and propylene oxide is reduced during the course of the addition until only pure propylene oxide is being introduced at the end of the addition, ~~thereby~~ forming an end block of propylene oxide on the polyol, wherein the total amount of propylene oxide is from greater than 15 to 50% by weight based on the total weight of the polyol.

PAGE 10/12 * RCVD AT 12/11/2003 5:29:47 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/0 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:734 324 6823 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-14